

Transactions

OF THE

BANFFSHIRE FIELD CLUB.



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www.banffshirefieldclub.org.uk

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 1882.

MEETING AT BANFF.

THIS Club met in the Academy Buildings, Banff, on Thursday evening. The Rev. Mr Milne, King-Edward, the President, occupied the chair.

Nine new names were added to the list of members.

A letter from a member of the Club was read, in which he stated that in August last, along with a friend from London, they were staying at Strathdon, where they observed a phenomenon in the behaviour of the river Don that they could not account for. Where they watched the stream a boulder, resting on the shallow bottom, protruded its head a couple of inches above the general level of the water, and the water rushed over the boulder so as to form a smooth unbroken arched surface about a couple of inches higher than the boulder. Such an appearance was, of course, quite familiar, but the rush of water was not continuous. Every minute or two there was a cessation of the violence—a slackening in the velocity—of the rush; the tiny wavelet pouring itself over the boulder got lower and lower, till the surface of the stone was quite bare and dry. There was a distinct pause for a second or two, and then the rushing recommenced. The movement appeared to be rythmical, occurring at stated intervals. The question was asked how the change of velocity was to be accounted for, but there had since come under the notice of the writer a tracing taken by electricity of the movements of an atom of water in a large river, which shows that it considerably changes its motion. The diagram, the writer thought, explained the rush of the water over the stone, the varying friction against the bottom and sides of the river causing eddies in every direction and in every size down to the atoms. The diagram was taken from a paper on the scouring action of rivers read before the Civil Engineers' Institution, and was submitted to the meeting.

An interesting discussion followed, from which it appeared that the phenomenon in question was well known to many of the members, but no satisfactory explanation of it was offered.

Mr Horne gave notice of the two following motions:—

1. That ladies be admitted as members of the Club on payment of an annual subscription of 2s. 6d.
2. That the Club sanction the provision of cases for the north end of the Museum.

Mr CRAMOND, Cullen, read a paper on the shells of Banffshire, illustrating it with diagrams and a large collection of Banffshire shells, formed by Mr T. Edward, A.L.S., Banff. After referring to the interest and